SUPERHERO SMACKDOWN

THE REEL GUYS PICK THE BEST 'AVENGER' MOVIES OF ALL TIME PAGE 9

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WEEKEND, May 4-6, 2012
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Off to a ROLLING START

Pat Cleeve, 38, from left, Jim Travis, 39, Sean Cavanaugh, 41, Todd Bushey, 37, and Chris Lake, 35, all of London, line up along the board wall at their new co-operative skateboard store (614 Dundas St.). They are five of the shop's six founding directors. Not pictured is Londoner Mac Hall, 35. Story, page 3.

ANGELA MULLINS/METRO

Riot team rallies on

More charges laid.
Search for suspects will continue until police are satisfied with result

ANGELA MULLINS
angela.mullins@metronews.ca

Nearly seven weeks in and no immediate end in sight: that just about sums up where a special team of 20 London police investigators stand with the search for suspects in the March 17 riot on Fleming Drive.

Const. Dennis Rivest said the investigation will continue "indefinitely."

Police released the latest update in the case on Thursday, laying unlawful assembly and mischief charges against seven people. Four are charged for destroying a news truck that was tipped and set on fire.

In all, 49 people — 19 of whom were Fanshawe College students when the incident happened — are facing criminal charges, Rivest said.

Images of 25 people police have not been able to identify were on the department website (london.police.ca) Thursday afternoon. That's down by two from the previous day.

The investigation has been "incredibly complicated," Rivest said, as officers pore through mounds of video of the incident. The work has been made even harder by the fact that many potential witnesses left London at the end of the winter term.

Despite that, police consider the investigation a success.

"We're charging (about) six to seven people a week right now," Rivest said. "It's getting the attention it deserves and the resources it needs to bring it to a conclusion."

Anyone with information can email tips@police.london.ca or call 519-660-5842.

Follow Angela Mullins on Twitter @MetroAngela

Fleming Drive riot

The following people face charges:

David Roche, 22
Benito Schiavone, 19
Gary Siegfried, 18
Jason Sims, 18
Forrest Enns, 19
Steven Rutherford, 18
Jason Guillemette, 21

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Skaters want to set example

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Shop's leaders have more than 100 years experience on their boards combined

ANGELA MULLINS
angela.mullins@metronews.ca

Boards. Shoes. Helmets. Pads.

London's newest skateboard shop carries a bit of everything you might expect. It also has something else: Energy. And: Synergy.

Aptly named London Skateboard Co-op, the store at 614 Dundas St. is helmed by six local guys who've melded a passion for skating with trying to make a difference.

"We want to … make skateboarding fun and interesting to as many people as we can," said Sean Cavanaugh, 41, a co-op director. "We want to teach people how to skate, teach people about the culture of skateboarding" and set a positive example, he added.

The shop opened at the end of March after the six-some turned a former jewelry shop into a thrasher's paradise.

But a vision for the store has been swirling around in Cavanaugh's head for much longer.

For the past two years, he's been toying with the idea of opening a shop that's active in the community at large and a hub for the skating scene. When a local shop closed last fall and Cavanaugh found out other skaters shared his goals, the London Skateboard Co-op was born.

There are a lot of parallels between the shop's business model and skateboard culture, Cavanaugh said.

"It's self-directed (plus) it relies on people who are interested, passionate and involved."

Along with helping younger skateboarders develop their skills and hone their chances of rising through the ranks, leaders of the co-op also want to be mentors.

Skaters often get a bad rep and, all too often, have a sort of rough-around-the-edges image, Cavanaugh said.

He hopes spending some time with the co-op's leaders can teach local youths that there's way more to the sport.

"We want to make sure skateboarding is portrayed positively and … (exists) in that way."

Launch party

- **London Skateboard Co-Op (614 Dundas St.) has an all-day launch party planned Saturday with lots of swag. Get the rundown at london-skateboardcoop.com.**

Let's Talk Science speaks teens' language

From left, David Kim, 13, Bealal Tanashi, 14, Tyler Brydges, 13, and Kevin Zhang, 13, all in Grade 8 at Jack Chambers Public School in London, build a tower from paper products during Thursday's All Science Challenge at Western University. The students were some of about 300 from across southwest Ontario putting their brains to the test for the event organized by Let's Talk Science, a national initiative to get kids interested in science. Students from a Stratford school took the event's grand prize. ANGELA MULLINS/METRO

Because she's worth it.

McGuinty says ex-MPP's salary is money well sent

Veteran Progressive Conservative Elizabeth Witmer deserves every cent of the $188,000 a year she'll be paid as chair of the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board, Premier Dalton McGuinty said Thursday.

Witmer resigned as the member of the legislature for Kitchener-Waterloo last Friday after McGuinty nominated her for the government job, freeing up her seat in the legislature.

The WSIB has a huge unfunded liability, a staff of 4,000 and deals with 200,000 injured workers. As a former labour minister Witmer is the right person to take on the challenges, said McGuinty.

Dalton McGuinty THE CANADIAN PRESS

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Closing arguments

Rafferty trial sees delay

There has been a delay in Michael Rafferty's first-degree murder trial after legal discussions lasted longer than expected. Justice Thomas Heeney is considering a variety of legal issues, which will be discussed by the Crown, defence and Heeney on Friday. The jury won't be back in the courtroom to hear Rafferty's lawyer Dirk Derstine give his closing argument until Monday morning at 10 a.m. He was originally expected to deliver his closing argument on Friday. AM980/AM980.CA

Community.

Rethinking the Forest City

Doing something all over again doesn't have to be a bad thing.

Just ask Narcise Datura or one of the other people who helped kick off ReThink London on Thursday.

"I think it's a great idea to get everyone on board … so we can work in partnership and have a stronger community," Datura, 35, said about city hall's year-long initiative.

Built around setting new goals and priorities, ReThink London will result in an updated city plan. A big emphasis is being placed on getting residents involved and fielding input on five themes: how we live, how we grow, how we green, how we move and how we prosper.

People will have a chance to weigh-in through a variety of social-media outlets and upcoming forums.

About 1,300 people attended the event launch at the city's Convention Centre.

ANGELA MULLINS/METRO

Discussion starter

- **London brought in the big guns to launch its ReThink London initiative. Peter Mansbridge, CBC News' chief correspondent, was the guest speaker.**

1 NEWS

On the web

A bonus for plus-sized models

Vogue magazine, perhaps the world's top arbiter of style, is making a statement about its own models: too thin is no longer in. The 19 editors of Vogue magazines around the world made a pact to project the image of healthy models. Find out more at metronews.ca

Cooking up some modesty

April Bloomfield, the woman who presides over the stove at a Michelin-starred pub, remains unconvinced that she's made it. Bloomfield was hand-plucked at 29 by rock-'n'-roll restaurateur Ken Friedman to open The Spotted Pig, and her success has grown since then. Read more at metronews.ca

Mobile news

The kids are all right. A new study suggests 60 per cent of teens use "the most effective" kinds of contraception, including the pill and patch. Scan the code for the story.

Home stage. Virtue, Moir to share JLC spotlight during Stars on Ice

Just a couple of kids "out there having a ball."

That's how Scott Moir describes the approach he and Tessa Virtue take to every performance. It no doubt will be top of mind when the ice-dancing duo hit the John Labatt Centre Sunday for Stars on Ice.

Fresh off a competition season that saw the world champions earn several gold medals, the tour is a chance to cut loose, shake the nerves and, most of all, have some fun.

"It's not quite so technical," Virtue, 22, said about performing on the tour circuit. "You feel like you're really connecting with the fans."

But, make no mistake about it, there will be pressure. There always is when you're performing for the home crowd, said Virtue, a London native.

Moir, 24, grew up just north of the Forest City, in Ilderton.

Under the direction of figure-skating icon Kurt Browning, Stars on Ice will see Virtue and Moir "pop up" in a number of selections with other skating superstars. They'll also take the ice as a pair for two songs: Marvin Gaye's Ain't No Mountain High Enough and Jeff Buckley's version of Hallelujah.

"We're always trying to go a new direction," Moir said, describing how the duo chooses their music. "Somewhere in the back of our minds we're trying to do something that we've never done before."

World champions Tessa Virtue and Scott Moir return to London Sunday for Stars on Ice. THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

Ain't No Mountain High Enough, he said, is a fun piece with a bit of a "disco feel."

Hallelujah has long been a favourite for the pair, especially after seeing kd lang's performance during the open ceremony at Vancouver's 2010 Winter Olympics.

ANGELA MULLINS/METRO

If you go

- Stars on Ice will be at the John Labatt Centre for a 4 p.m. Sunday show.
- Ticket information and details are available at starsonice.ca or johnlabattcentre.com.

Big gift. Western given $1.125-million donation

Western University has received $1.125 million to supports environmental research.

The donation from Newalta Corp. is toward efforts at Western to discover to create value from wastes generated by industries such as oil and gas, pulp and paper, mining, and manufacturing.

"We will be able to provide unique learning opportunities for our students and researchers, while working to bring innovative environmental technologies to market more quickly," said Janice Deakin, Western's acting vice-president (research).

The company will give $1 million to advance environmental engineering research, and an additional $125,000 will support the Newalta Corp. Ontario graduate scholarship.

METRO

With London Knights goalie Michael Houser caught out of position, forward Austin Watson, right, makes a save on Alex Friesen of the Niagara IceDogs in the third period of Thursday's OHL finals opener at the John Labatt Centre. The London Knights lost 3-2 in double overtime. MARK SPOWART/FOR METRO

No overtime magic in Knights' Game 1 loss

OHL Finals. Brothers team up to deal blow to London fans in double overtime

JOHN MATISZ
john.matisz@metronews.ca

After watching former bench boss Dale Hunter lose a marathon of an NHL match the night prior, the London Knights fell by the same fate in Game 1 of the Ontario Hockey League championship series Thursday night.

At 9:03 of the second overtime period, Niagara IceDogs rearguard Dougie Hamilton crept deep into London's zone and made the most of a pass sent his way from his brother, Freddie.

"To be honest, I just saw that opportunity. My brother had the puck in the corner, put it out to me," the OHL's defenceman of the year said when describing the 3-2 extra time winner. "I (did) a little pump fake, the guy went down. (Then I) put it on net and it just squeaked in the five-hole."

Before 8,964 at the John Labatt Centre, Mark Hunter's Knights dropped a heartbreaker less than 24 hours after his brother's Washington Capitals fought for over six periods, only to lose as well.

"It was close and it was hot, so both teams were looking sluggish to a certain degree," Mark said. "Whoever got a shot to the net and got some traffic (was going to get) a goal."

Hamilton, an 18-year-old Boston Bruins prospect, extended his playoff point streak to six games after a three-point night (one goal, two assists).

After the first overtime, the Knights had survived two penalties — a delay of game call on goaltender Michael Houser for pushing the net off its hinges, and a cross-checking minor to Matt Rupert — as well as a back-and-forth 20 minutes.

Their foes came out firing in the fifth period, however. The game-winner was Niagara's sixth puck on net of the period, while London was shotless.

"Obviously, you feel a little tired out there," Knights forward Austin Watson said, "but that kind of goes by the wayside when you get into an overtime game like that. It's the type of game you dream about playing and winning."

Niagara, armed with an incredible 12 NHL draft picks, did not panic at any point. Despite letting the Knights tie the game up twice, the Eastern Conference champions outlasted the home team in the end.

A pair of the league's finest netminders, Houser and Mark Visentin, turned away 51 and 41 shots, respectively.

Thursday's defeat was London's first in extra time this post-season.

Next game is Saturday in Niagara.

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Wrongfully convicted.
Man launches lawsuit

A man who spent more than 30 years behind bars after being wrongfully convicted of murder is suing the people he says landed him in prison.

Romeo Phillion is suing the Attorney General of Ontario, the Ottawa Police Services Board and two individual officers for $14 million.

His suit accuses the defendants of malicious and negligent conduct that resulted in his conviction and long prison sentence in the 1967 murder of an Ottawa firefighter.

Phillion alleges police manipulated witnesses to support a false confession he quickly recanted, despite their knowledge that he was not in Ottawa at the time of the murder.

The defendants did not immediately offer comment on the suit.

Phillion was sentenced to life in prison in 1972 for the murder of Leopold Roy, but the Ontario Court of Appeal quashed his conviction in 2009. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Romeo Phillion looks on during a break in his appeal trial in 2010.
SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Norway massacre trial.
Ferry captain testifies

Witnesses in Norway recounted Thursday how mass murderer Anders Behring Breivik — armed and in police uniform — managed to trick his way onto a ferry to Utoya island, where he massacred 69 people in a shooting spree just hours after killing eight people in a bomb attack.

Jon Olson, captain of the MS Thorbjoern ferry, told the Oslo District Court about his "angst and full panic" as he frantically tried to contact police about the island attack after his ferry had docked at Utoya.

Breivik has admitted to the bombing in Oslo's government district and the subsequent shootings at a Labor Party youth camp on Utoya. He claims the July 22 attacks were "necessary" and that the 77 victims had betrayed Norway by embracing immigration.

Olson, who lost his partner, Monica Boesei, the second person to die in the shootings, said neither he nor his crew suspected the uniform-clad Breivik to be anything other than a police officer who had come to inform them about the Oslo attack. Breivik boarded the boat some two hours after setting off the bomb, together with Boesei and other passengers.

"I don't remember if I saw him shooting Monica, but I think I did," Olson calmly told the court about how he saw Breivik open fire on the island onto which Boesei had also just disembarked. Their two daughters lost a mother in the attacks, and Olson said 11-year-old Victoria still regularly cries herself to sleep.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Animal activism

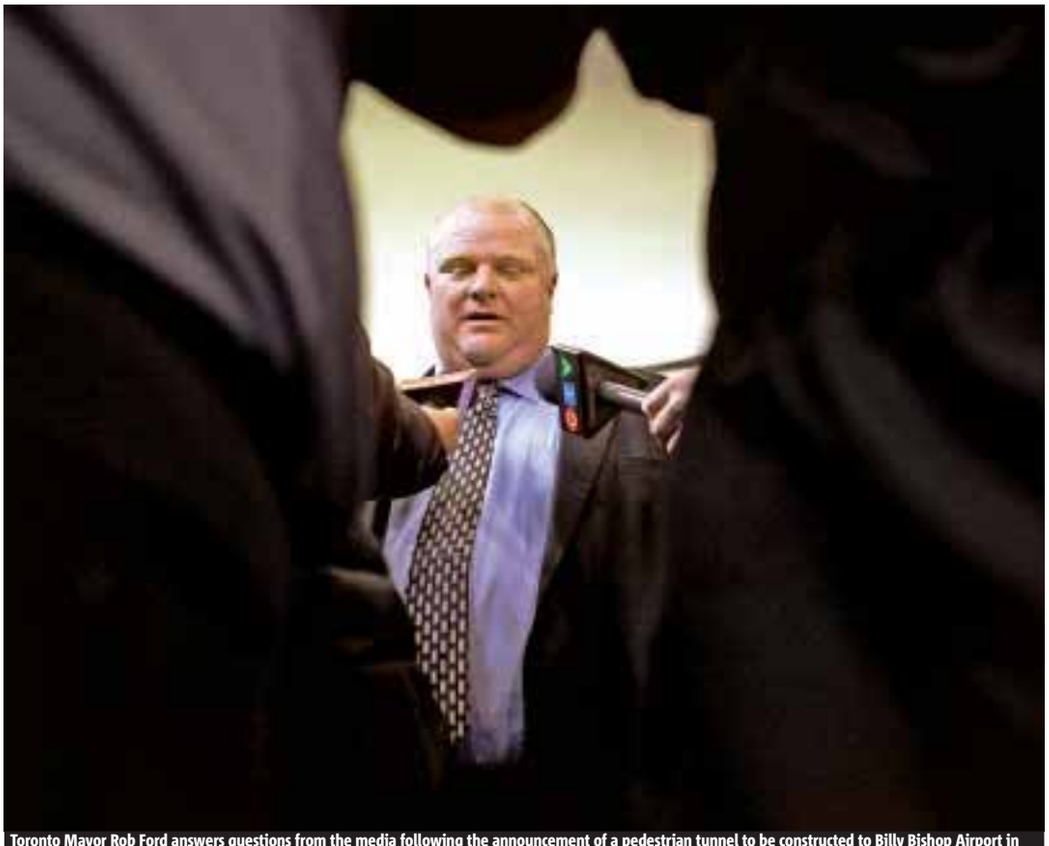
$380K price is right for haven for 5 HIV chimps

Retired game-show host and animal rights advocate Bob Barker is opening a new area for five HIV-infected chimpanzees at a sanctuary in northwestern Louisiana. They are named Doc, JoJo, Murphy, Flick and Pierre. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Blind Chinese activist

Mitt calls 'shame' on U.S. for letting dissident leave

Mitt Romney criticized the Obama administration for allowing a blind Chinese dissident to leave the U.S. Embassy in Beijing. The Republican presidential candidate called the act a "dark day for freedom."
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Toronto Mayor Rob Ford answers questions from the media following the announcement of a pedestrian tunnel to be constructed to Billy Bishop Airport in Toronto in March. PAWEL DWULIT/THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

Not in my backyard or in city hall scrum

Toronto mayor. After incident near his home, Rob Ford refuses to speak with media if reporter he accuses of spying on him is there

Toronto Mayor Rob Ford says he won't talk to any media in the presence of a reporter he accuses of spying on his home.

Ford told radio station AM640 this morning he wants Toronto Star reporter Daniel Dale removed from covering city hall in light of last night's confrontation.

Police were called to the mayor's west Toronto home after a neighbour saw someone who appeared to be in the mayor's backyard with a recording device.

The Star says Dale was on public property next to Ford's home and was there to research a story about a piece of land Ford wants to buy. The paper says Dale was not there to harass Ford.

A visibly angry Ford held a press conference outside his home on Wednesday night and said it's unbelievable what the reporter did, adding when he confronted Dale, the journalist dropped his phone and recorder before running away.

Dale's version of events, posted on the Star's website, says Ford yelled and charged at him with one fist up even though the reporter pleaded for him to stop.

Ford said this morning he "never laid a hand on" Dale but stressed he doesn't want to see the reporter in any media scrums.

"I will not be talking to any reporters if he is part of that scrum," he told AM640.

This isn't the first time Ford has been involved in a dust-up with a member of the media.

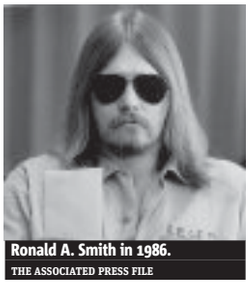
In October, Ford called 911 after Mary Walsh of the CBC's comedy series 22 Minutes confronted him in his driveway dressed as her Marg Delahunty, Princess Warrior character.

Ford, who has had death threats, said he didn't know who Walsh was and feared for his safety. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quoted

"I will not be talking to any reporters if (Daniel Dale) is part of that scrum." Toronto Mayor Rob Ford

Canada accused of 'treachery' in death-row case



Ronald A. Smith in 1986.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Lawyers for convicted double killer Ronald Smith are accusing the Canadian government of reneging on an offer to speak on his behalf at a hearing in Montana to determine whether he will get the death penalty or clemency.

The Harper government offered only tepid support for Smith's plea for clemency with its initial response and made it clear there would be no one making a presentation at the hearing on Wednesday.

But Smith's lawyers were excited on Monday when they received news that Marie-Eve Lamy, a consul at the Canadian Consulate General in Denver, was going to read a statement on behalf of the Harper government.

Lamy attended Smith's clemency hearing Wednesday morning but in the afternoon, she was gone, which prompted lawyer Don Vernay to read the copy he had of her statement into the official court record.

Greg Jackson, Smith's lawyer for 25 years, didn't mince words about what he called an unexplainable change once again in the Canadian government's position.

"It's been treachery. It's almost Shakespearean in nature ... They still supported clemency but they withdrew their enthusiastic support," he said.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

RIM share price falls to 9-year low

Market. BlackBerry maker's shares plunge below $12 after reports suggested the company would ditch physical keyboard

The Canadian company that revolutionized the mobile phone industry spent a very expensive week trying to sell the idea that the BlackBerry isn't a dying technology, only to see its share price close Thursday at its lowest level in nearly a decade.

Research In Motion stock fell 72 cents, or 5.7 per cent, to close at $11.91 on the Toronto Stock Exchange.

It hasn't been below $12 since 2003.

Thursday's plunge marked three days of declines that began after the Waterloo tech giant gave a first glimpse of its much-anticipated new operating software at its annual developer conference in Orlando, Fla.

The BlackBerry 10 OS prototype was handed to developers in the hope of getting them onside and writing applications for the system, but it won't hit the market for several months.

RIM's shares have fallen some 15 per cent since Tuesday's reveal of the operating system. At its height the stock was trading at more than $144 in 2008, when RIM was briefly the most valuable company on the Toronto Stock Exchange.

During the conference, RIM chief executive Thorsten Heins was forced to confront rumours that the new BlackBerry would feature only a touchscreen keyboard and not a physical keypad.

The confusion arose after Heins unveiled the new operating system and focused on some flashy features available to touchscreen users, but didn't address any future plans for keypad devices. Some reports suggested the company would completely ditch the physical keys that helped build its name and are favoured by many of its users.

"We won't lose the focus on physical keypads. It would be wrong, just plain wrong to do this," Heins said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Market Minute

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TSX
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IT'S SNOOKI CALLING THE POT BLACK

THE LIST
Mike Benhaim
Metro

1 **Same old story:** You know the one — lady's philandering husband spends all her money, then leaves for a hotter, richer woman. Spurned lady spends a year feeling dirty and used, and just when she's begun to move on, he returns with flowers and playful charms. Still vulnerable, she crumbles, and her friends throw up their arms saying, "He's not even that good looking." In other news, Conrad Black returns to Canada.

2 **Let it be written:** As an example of necessity being the mother of invention, researchers at Arizona State University have released a list of "commandments" for Facebook. Issues covered by the rules: acknowledging postings to your page by clicking "Like," inappropriate "poking" (never wise), and posting pictures of friends from a debauched weekend in Vegas. My favourite edict, not limited to FB, is "Thou shalt use common sense," which, ironically, supersedes a need for the list to begin with.

3 **Carrot caution:** A study released Wednesday out of Ohio University has found that consuming excessive amounts of beta carotene might not be good for you. Contrary to what we've been told for centuries, it can block some effects of vitamin A critical to vision, skin health, metabolism and immune function. Vision? It goes to show you just can't trust your mom anymore.

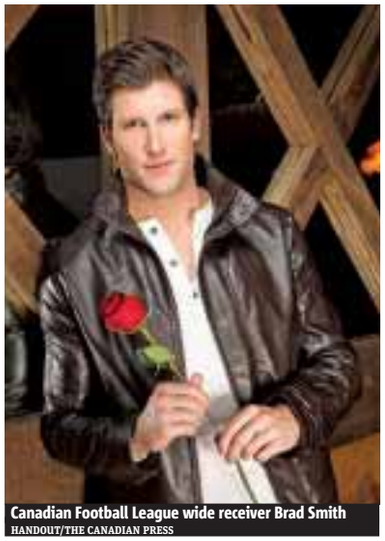
4 **Playing hardball:** Two years after Victoria's Secret combined two of men's favorite things by releasing their line of baseball-themed lingerie, they introduce the Blue Jays collection. With two types of sexy briefs (one leopard print), and two skimpy tees, they've given new meaning to the phrase "Sliding into home."

5 **United we stand:** Canadian awards shows the Genies and the Geminis are joining forces to create just one all-encompassing program. This is great news for apathetic Canadians who now only have to not watch one show.

6 **Labour days:** Jessica Simpson has given birth to a 22-inch, nine-pound, 13-ounce baby girl. This explains the tremendous baby bump that prompted pregnant Jersey Shore star Nicole "Snooki" Polizzi to say, "I'd die if I ever got that big." Aw, Snooki, we don't want you to die. We just want you to go away. Gone.

7 **Hoops! My bad:** Some are saying the stress of the condensed NBA season has resulted in a post-season riddled with injuries. None more symbolic than when Knicks' Amare Stoudemire tempered the burning flames of his competitive passion after a brutal loss to Miami by punching a fire extinguisher. Someone might have mentioned requiring the hand to play out the series. Surprisingly, Amare skipped college to go pro.

8 **Canadian courtship:** Our nation's first TV Bachelor is CFL wide receiver Brad Smith, who can't wait to meet all the wonderful women who will join him in this consummate quest for love. He seeks independent, intelligent women who are "just as confident in a ponytail and sweats as they are all dressed up." And adds that high-maintenance women turn him off. Relax, Brad. Any intelligent woman willing to endure weeks of public judgment, cat fights and drama, all to potentially marry a CFL player, is probably not high-maintenance.



Canadian Football League wide receiver Brad Smith
HANDOUT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

A 'Scream' is worth $119.9M

GETTY IMAGES

Edvard Munch

Work of art sells for historic price

NEW YORK. Edvard Munch's The Scream made history on Wednesday night when it became the most expensive piece of art ever sold at auction.

After a fierce bidding war at Sotheby's New York, the 1895 pastel went to an anonymous buyer for $119.9 million US. The auction house was thrilled at the "historic" price on a night when sales topped $330 million US.

Simon Shaw, the head of impressionist and modern art for Sotheby's, said the painting was a good deal.

"If ever there was a work of art of true shock and awe, it is Edvard Munch's The Scream, which is not only one of the seminal images from art history, but also one of the visual keys to the modern consciousness."

The work is one of four versions by the Norwegian expressionist artist and was the only one still privately owned.

It is regarded as the most prized of the four as a poem written by the artist is on the frame.

METRO

Scream-worthy poetry

"I was walking along the road with two friends. The Sun was setting — The Sky turned a bloody red And I felt a whiff of Melancholy — I stood Still, deathly tired — over the blue-black Fjord and City hung Blood and Tongues of Fire. My Friends walked on — I remained behind — shivering with Anxiety. I felt the great Scream in Nature."

Munch's poem written in blood red paint

By the numbers

What can you buy with $119.9 million US?

- 60,000 classic British telephone boxes
- 20,000 tigers
- 40 Stradivarius violins
- 15 light jets
- Six holidays at the International Space Station
- One Cristiano Ronaldo

60 seconds

Modern art specialist Philip Hook

Why has this work of art been so popular?

It's one of the most important pictures ever in terms of fame and familiarity because it captures the modern man with his angst and alienation. It marked a new phase at the start of the 20th century when artists began portraying their own emotions.

What moral lessons can be found in it?

There is a comment on man's relationship with nature, but also it is based on guilt. When Munch painted this his father had just died and his sister was in a lunatic asylum.

Metropolitan Panel

Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll

How long should Canadian Forces remain in Afghanistan?

80%
WE'VE ALREADY MET OUR OBLIGATION
0%
WE SHOULD STAY ON UNTIL THE SITUATION IS STABLE
20%
ONLY UNTIL THE NATO WITHDRAWAL IN 2014

Twitter

@Monki_Business:
I love out of office meeting days :D so nice out

@HydeParkFeeds:
Crazy...don't see Blue Jays for a bit, then a bunch come at once! 4 at the same time last night landed in here, now again this morning!

@WillowWisdom:
It's a lovely morning in #LDNont and I've managed to sleep through most of it.

@NikkehSass:
Another beautiful day here in #ldnont...but I'm afraid to get excited for summer when it could be ripped away by another cold front. :/

@PowerofGiggle:
And so begins the #ldnont construction dance.

@xxBradenScottxx:
All #IWantToHave to have right now is an acceptance letter from #UWO, is that too much to ask?

metro
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The Avengers is just the latest in a long line of superhero films. HANDOUT

Reel Guys

RICHARD CROUSE AND MARK BRESLIN

Putting the 'super' in superhero films

Roundup. Richard Crouse and Mark Breslin dish on their favourite vigilante features

Richard: Mark, even though the ads guaranteed I would believe a man could fly, I'm not sure that my 15-year-old self actually thought Christopher Reeve was circling the earth in Superman: The Movie, but I do know I thought it was cool. And still do. I've seen it dozens of times and its blend of humour, action and nostalgia is worth its weight in Kryptonite.

Mark: The first Superman movie was the platinum standard in superhero films: graceful, even poetic. The sequels ruined its goodwill, but the quality of the original cannot be denied. But I think the world can be divided into two kinds of people: Superman people and Batman people, and I seem to be a Batman person. Even the weakest in the Batman franchise still enthralls me; if we're talking about Christopher Nolan's The Dark Knight, we may be talking Godfather-level cinema.

RC: Of the big name superheroes we haven't mentioned Spider-Man yet. I liked the first Sam Raimi web slinger movie, complete with Tobey Maguire and the upside down kiss, but even cooler is Darkman. Raimi created the Darkman character out of frustration after failing to get the screen rights to The Shadow and Batman. Liam Neeson plays the swashbuckling hero in this violent and funny movie.

MB: Darkman is a dark horse entry, but yes, it's a good one and Neeson is fantastic in it. Wish I could share your enthusiasm for Spider-Man but I spent the entire movie wishing the dweeb would grow a pair. More like Spider-Boy to me. The series I prefer is the X-Men franchise, which seems to get more sophisticated with each release. And the Wolverine spin-off is a definite fave.

RC: I liked Wolverine's R-rated cameo in X-Men: First Class. Cool, underrated movie and his unfit-for-publication-in-a-family-paper-line is very memorable. Also memorable are a few movies about a lesser tier of superheroes. Everyone knows Batman and Superman, but how about Captain Invisible, the alcoholic hero who comes out of hiding to save America from destruction? Or the strange and funny Orgazmo from the twisted minds of South Park's Matt Stone and Trey Parker?

MB: And what about the lonely comic book superheroes never immortalized on film? When, oh when, will they make that masterpiece starring The Flash? The scene where he'd do his taxes in three seconds flat would be worth the price of admission!

Synopsis

Lately it seems you couldn't swing Thor's hammer in a theatre without hitting a superhero movie, like this weekend's The Avengers, but movies about caped crusaders and heroes who can leap buildings in a single bound are nothing new. This week the Reel Guys pick the best superhero movies of all time.

2 SCENE

Scene in brief

D'Angelo sparkles

D'Angelo is making his comeback: the reclusive singer will give his first U.S. performance in 10 years at the 2012 Essence Music Festival. D'Angelo will perform during the festival's opening night. It runs from July 6 to July 8 in New Orleans and also features Trey Songz, Aretha Franklin, Mary J. Blige and many others. The soul singer's latest album is 2000's Voodoo. It went platinum and won two Grammy Awards, including best R&B album. His debut, 1995's Brown Sugar, was also a platinum effort. Since that, D'Angelo has stepped away from the music scene, drawing attention for his run-ins with the law.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

On the web

Bob Barker opening new area for 5 HIV-infected chimps at national sanctuary in Louisiana

Action

The Avengers

Director. Joss Whedon

Stars. Robert Downey Jr., Chris Evans, Scarlett Johansson

Great comic book movies, like great comic books, have to play their heroes and villains straight. The stakes have to be high and in the case of Marvel's The Avengers, the fate of the planet literally hangs in the balance. The humour is innately there (a bunch of costumed superheroes hanging out together is already absurd) but in director Joss Whedon's mammoth budgeted blockbuster, the humour is of the nudging, winking variety, almost as if Whedon is trying to convince the audience that he's smarter than the material. It's an obnoxious trait that bogs down what could have been a perfect mash up.

CHRIS ALEXANDER

Drama

Footnote

Director. Joseph Cedar

Stars. Shlomo Bar-Aba, Lior Ashkenazi, Aliza Rosen

Israel's 2012 Foreign Language Oscar entry is an intriguing, nerve jangling and oppressively narrow story that would be funny if it weren't so pathetic. Israeli father and son academics are torn apart by a national prize; the elder doggedly pursued Talmudic theories for 30 years only to have them made redundant when a colleague scooped him. In his obsessive, paranoid misery, he sees his son as his real rival. Things get a lot worse in grandly academic and hilariously lowbrow ways.

ANNE BRODIE

Quoted

"It did actually really scare me to step into this world and I didn't know that I could pull it off. It took some convincing from people like (co-star) Robert (Downey Jr.) and Joss. The thing that I was always worried about was just getting pigeon-holed by a big part like this. But now I'm at a point where I have a big enough body of work where this isn't going to make me or break me, really. It'll help, in a lot of ways."

Mark Ruffalo, talking about stepping into the role of the Hulk in The Avengers.

Legend of a Warrior. Doc breaks down tough guys

Forged in a harsh Hong Kong ghetto, Frank Lee came to Canada in 1960 and worked overnights at the rough and tumble Phoenix Cafe in Edmonton.

He was a waiter/busboy/bouncer and, as miscreants soon found out, a very talented martial artist. When trouble started, he ended it. Tough as nails, the five-foot-seven 155-pounder never lost a fight.

He went on to become a martial arts grandmaster out of the Edmonton gym dubbed Frank's Torture Chamber. And he trained champions half a world away in Thailand and Hong Kong.

Along the way, his family drifted apart.

So son Corey — a filmmaker — set about to reconnect. In 2011, he started training under his father, returning to the martial arts he had abandoned more than two decades before.

"He is my father. But I don't really know the man. I only know the legend," Corey says early on in Legend of a Warrior, which had its world premiere at the Hot Docs festival this week.

Cameras captured their time together over some seven months.

"I was hoping for some level of healing and some level of understanding," Corey, now 42, said in an interview this week.

He got that and more in an emotional journey that is lovingly captured in the 78-minute documentary.

The National Film Board project starts as a guarded father-son reunion in the ring at Frank's gym. But emotional walls are torn down later in the film during a trip to Hong Kong, where Frank first studied martial arts after leaving China with his family at the age of nine.

Tears flow as Frank rereads a letter he sent Corey from Hong Kong in February 1983 on yet another training mission that had taken him from his family. The man who can bend rebar with his neck or break cinder blocks with his hands cries as he laments the breakup of his family — or "crystal ball" as he calls it.

It is heart-rending stuff and it's a safe bet that many more tears will be shed by those watching it.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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THESE PAGES COVER MOVIE START TIMES FROM FRI., MAY 4 TO THURS., MAY 10. TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. COMPLETE LISTINGS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT METRONEWS.CA/MOVIES.

London

Mustang Drive-In -London 2551 Wilton Grove Rd., 519-644-1160

John Carter (PG) Fri-Sun 11:30 Tue 11:30 Thu 11:30
Marvel's the Avengers (PG) Fri-Sun 9 Tue 9 Thu 9
The Raven (18A) Fri-Sun 10:45 Tue 10:45 Thu 10:45
Safe (14A) Fri-Sun 9:05 Tue 9:05 Thu 9:05

Hyland Cinema 240 Wharncliffe Road South, 519-913-0313

Bully (PG) Fri 3:10-7 Sat-Sun 1-5 Mon 1-7 Tue 3:10-7 Wed-Thu 1-5
Footnote (14A) Fri-Sat 9 Sun 7 Mon 3 Tue 9 Wed 7 Thu 9
Salmon Fishing in the Yemen (PG) Fri 5 Sat 7 Sun 3 Mon-Tue 5 Wed 3 Thu 7
W.E. (14A) Fri 1 Sat 2:50 Sun-Mon 9 Tue 1 Wed 9 Thu 2:50

Rainbow Cinemas London 355 Wellington St., 519-434-3073

Chimpanzee (G) Fri-Thu 1:15-3:30-7:15-9
Dark Shadows (14A) Thu 10
The Five-Year Engagement (14A) Fri-Thu 1:15-3:55-6:55-9:35
The Hunger Games (14A) Fri-Wed 1-4-7-9:45 Thu 1-4-7
Marvel's the Avengers (PG) Fri-Thu 12:45-1-3:45-4-6:45-7-9:30-9:45
The Pirates! Band of Misfits (PG) Fri-Thu 1:10-3:15-7:10-9:10
The Raven (18A) Fri-Thu 1:30-3:55-7:25-9:50

Western Film Room 340, UCC Building,

The Five-Year Engagement stars Jason Segel and Emily Blunt. HANDOUT

Mirror Mirror (PG) Fri-Thu 7

Wellington 8 Cinemas 983 Wellington Rd. S, 519-685-2529

Dark Shadows (14A) Thu 10
The Five-Year Engagement (14A) Fri 6:50-9:45 Sat-Sun 12:20-3:20-6:50-9:45 Mon-Thu 6:50-9:45
The Lucky One (PG) Fri 7:15-9:50 Sat-Sun 1:30-4-7:15-9:50 Mon-Thu 7:15-9:50
Marvel's the Avengers (PG) No Passes Fri 7:30 No Passes Sat-Sun 1-4:15-7:30 No Passes Mon-Thu 7:30
Marvel's the Avengers 3D (PG) No Passes Fri 6:45-7-10-10:10 No Passes Sat-Sun 12:15-12:30-3:30-3:45-6:45-7-10-10:10 No Passes Mon-Thu 6:45-7-10
The Pirates! Band of Misfits (PG) Sat-Sun 1:10
The Pirates! Band of Misfits 3D (PG) Fri 6:40-9:10 Sat-Sun 4:10-6:40-9:10 Mon-Thu 6:40-9:10
The Raven (18A) Fri 6:30-9:20 Sat-Sun 12:45-3:50-6:30-9:20 Mon-Wed 6:30-9:20 Thu 6:30
Safe (14A) Fri 7:10-9:35 Sat-Sun 1:20-3:40-7:10-9:35 Mon-Wed 7:10-9:35 Thu 10:05

Cineplex Odeon Westmount & VIP Cinemas 755 Wonderland Road South, 519-474-2796

21 Jump Street (14A) Fri 5:20-8 Sat 12:05-2:40-5:20-8 Sun 11:50-2:25-5-7:45 Mon 7:45 Tue 5-7:45 Wed-Thu 7:45
Dark Shadows (14A) No Passes Thu 10
Das Rheingold (STC) Wed 6:30
The Five-Year Engagement (14A) Fri 4:55-7:50-10:45 Sat 2-4:55-7:50-10:45 Sun 1:30-4:25-7:20-10:15 Mon 7:20-10:15 Tue 4:25-7:20-10:15 Wed-Thu 7:20-10:15 Fri 4:35-7:45-10:40 Sat 1:30-4:35-7:45-10:40 Sun 1:30-4:35-7:45-10:35 Mon 7:15-10:15 Tue 4:35-7:45-10:30 Wed-Thu 7:45-10:30
The Hunger Games (14A) Fri 3:45-7-10:10 Sat-Sun 12:40-3:45-7-10:10 Mon 6:50-10 Tue 3:45-6:50-10 Wed 6:50-10 Thu 10:30 Fri 4:05-7:15-10:20 Sat-Sun 1-4:05-7:15-10:20 Mon 9:20 Tue 4:05-7:15-10:15 Wed 10:15 Thu 7:15-10:15
The Lucky One (PG) Fri 5:40-8:10-10:40 Sat 12:50-3:15-5:40-8:10-10:40 Sun 12:20-2:45-5:10-7:40-10:10 Mon 7:40-10:10 Tue 5:10-7:40-10:10 Wed 7:40-10:10 Thu 6:50 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Marvel's the Avengers (PG) No Passes Fri 4:20-7:40-10:55 No Passes Sat 1-4:20-7:40-10:55 No Passes Sun 12:15-3:10-6:40-10 No Passes Mon 7:30-10:35 No Passes Tue 4:20-7:30-10:35 No Passes Wed-Thu 7:30-10:35 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Wed 1
Marvel's the Avengers 3D (PG) No Passes Fri 3:30-3:50-6:40-7:10-10-10:30 No Passes Sat 12-12:30-3:20-3:50-6:40-7:10-10-10:30 No Passes Sun 11:45-12:45-2:50-3:50-6:10-7:10-9:30-10:30 No Passes Mon 6:40-7:10-9:45-10:15 No Passes Tue 3:30-4-6:40-7:10-9:45-10:15 No Passes Wed 6:40-7:10-9:45-10:15 No Passes Thu 7:10-7:20-10:15 No Passes Fri 3:35-6:45-9:50 No Passes Sat-Sun 12:30-3:35-6:45-9:50 No Passes Mon 6:45-9:50 No Passes Tue 3:35-6:45-9:50 No Passes Wed-Thu 6:45-9:50
The Pirates! Band of Misfits (PG) Sat 12:45 Sun 12:30
The Pirates! Band of Misfits 3D (PG) Fri 5:15-7:30-9:45 Sat-Sun 3-5:15-7:30-9:45 Mon 7-9:20 Tue 4:45-7-9:20 Wed-Thu 7-9:20
The Raven (18A) Fri-Sat 10:45 Sun-Thu 10:25
This American Life Live! Things You Can't Do On the Radio (STC) Thu 8
Wagner's Dream (STC) Mon 6:30

SilverCity London 1680 Richmond St, 519-673-4125

21 Jump Street (14A) Fri 12:10-2:55-5:30-8:05-10:50 Sat 5:30-8:05-10:50 Sun-Mon 12:10-2:55-5:30-8:05-10:30 Tue 12:10-2:55-5:30-8:05-10:50 Wed 12:10-2:55-10:30 Thu 12:10-2:55-5:30-8:05-10:30
American Reunion (14A) Fri-Sat 2:35-5:15-8:10-10:45 Sun 4:30-7:10-9:50 Mon 3:30-9:50 Tue 2:35-5:15-8:10-10:45 Wed 4:30-7:10-9:50 Thu 4:30-7:10
Chimpanzee (G) Fri-Sat 12:05-2:05-4:15-6:25-8:35 Sun-Mon 12:05-2:05-4:15-6:55 Tue 12:05-2:05-4:15-6:25-8:35 Wed-Thu 12:05-2:05-4:15-6:55
Dark Shadows (14A) No Passes Thu 10:05
Das Rheingold (STC) Wed 6:30
Dr. Seuss' the Lorax (G) Fri-Sat 12:35 Sun 12:35-2:30 Mon-Tue 12:35 Wed-Thu 12:35-2:30
The Five-Year Engagement (14A) Fri-Sat 1:45-4:35-7:25-10:15 Sun-Mon 1:45-4:35-7:25-10:10 Tue 1:45-4:35-7:25-10:15 Wed-Thu 1:45-4:35-7:25-10:10
The Hunger Games (14A) Fri-Sat 12:50-4:10-7:30-10:40 Sun-Mon 12:50-4:20-7:15-10:25 Tue 12:50-4:10-7:30-10:40 Wed-Thu 12:50-4:20-7:15-10:25
The Lucky One (PG) Fri-Sat 12:45-3:15-5:45-8:15-10:45 Sun-Mon 12:45-4:25-7:30-9:55 Tue 12:45-3:15-5:45-8:15-10:45 Wed-Thu 12:45-4:25-7:30-9:55
Marvel's the Avengers (PG) No Passes Fri-Sat 12:30-3:50-7:10-10:30 No Passes Sun-Mon 12:30-3:50-7-10:15 No Passes Tue 12:30-3:50-7:40-10:50 No Passes Wed 4:15-7:30-10:40 No Passes Thu 12:30-3:50-7-10:15 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Wed 1
Marvel's the Avengers 3D (PG) No Passes Fri-Sat 11:30-12-2:50-3:20-6:10-6:40-9:30-10 No Passes Sun-Thu 11:45-12-3-3:20-6:10-6:40-9:30-10
Marvel's the Avengers: An IMAX 3D Experience (PG) No Passes Fri-Sat 11-2-5-8-11 No Passes Sun-Thu 1-4:10-7:20-10:30
One Man, Two Guvnors - Encore Presentation (STC) Sat 12:30
The Pirates! Band of Misfits (PG) Fri-Tue 12:20 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1 Thu 12:20
The Pirates! Band of Misfits 3D (PG) Fri-Tue 2:30-4:40-6:50-9 Wed 4:40-6:50-9 Thu 2:30-4:40-6:50-9
The Raven (18A) Fri-Sat 10:35 Sun-Mon 10:05 Tue 10:35 Wed-Thu 10:05
Safe (14A) Fri-Thu 1-3:10-5:25-7:45-10:20
Short Circuit (STC) Sat 11
Wagner's Dream (STC) Mon 6:30

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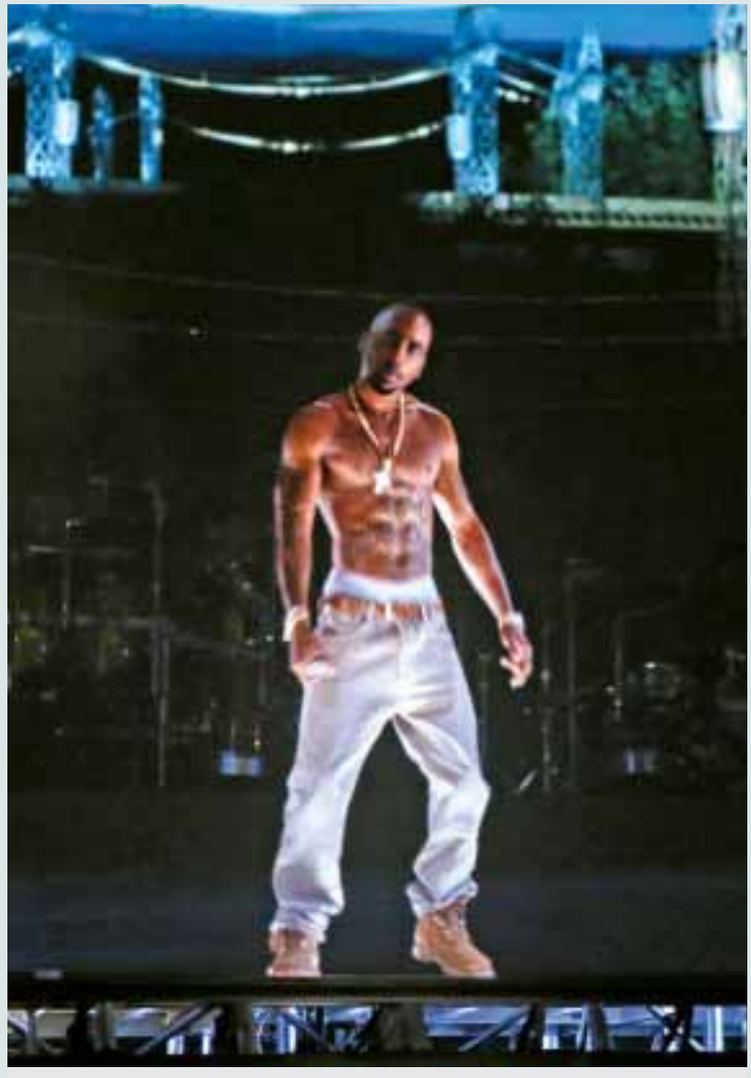
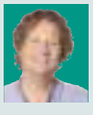
Sound Check



Tupac-style holograms: It was inevitable



SOUND CHECK
Alan Cross
scene@metronews.ca

Ever since Tupac's hologram resurrection at Coachella last month, people have been talking about the potential for this technology.

"Bring Michael Jackson back and the Jacksons can restage the Victory Tour of 1984!" they say.

The original line-up of The Who could do another farewell tour.

What would it be like to have Kurt Cobain and Jimi Hendrix in the same band at a show?

Reuters recently asked 1,100 people whom they would most like to see return from the dead.

The answer was Ray Charles.

Some critics find this most distressing and I understand that.

But we've been moving down this road towards virtual performers for decades.

When Queen released their Live Killers concert album in 1979, there was an outcry from purists who claimed that backing tapes were used to fill in some of the vocal parts.

Fans were shocked to find that live albums from many other artists were tarted up in the studio afterwards.

That's not very "live," is it?

Yet fans didn't care. After paying good money to see these bands, they wanted the songs to sound as close to what they heard on the radio and their stereos.

A few years later, the Human League was kicked off a Talking Heads tour because audiences became so hostile at the sight of a bunch of people dancing and singing to machines. Synth bands in general were shunned by rockers who believed that these artists were cheating by using electronics, and thus not "real" musicians.

But people got over it.

Synth bands not only survived but prospered.

Today, fans expect pitch-perfect note-for-note renditions of their favourite songs in concert and (where applicable) all kinds of dancing, special effects and costume changes.

The only way to do that is with Auto-Tune and backing tracks.

Meanwhile, fans watch most of the show on big video screens rather than watching the stage. Again, what's "live?"

Gorillaz sold millions of records as a virtual group.

Same with Canada's Prozzak. Hatsune Miku is an anime cartoon who performs with a live band in front of tens of thousands of screaming fans in Japanese arenas.

We live in a computer generated imagery world where technology blurs reality on TV screens, in theatres, in amusement parks and on computers.

Why wouldn't this be extended to the realm of live concerts?

Besides, don't we believe that all celebrities are fake, anyway?

Jack White's first solo album debuted at number one on the Billboard charts. HANDOUT/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jack White taps into a blue vein on solo album

New music. White's first solo album Blunderbuss blends electronic rages, country blues and rockabilly

Jack White is musing on his latest colour scheme.

"What if blues musicians like Robert Johnson and Blind Willie McTell actually wore blue clothes?" White wonders, laughing.

The former White Stripe has bathed his first solo album, Blunderbuss, with a pale blue palette. It informs the album artwork, the touring stage presentation and the outfits of his backing band, which alternates between all-male and all-female lineups.

Since he was a teenage upholsterer in Detroit, White has carefully colour-coordinated his work. While recording Blunderbuss in his studio in Nashville, Tenn., White played with a pale blue telecaster and an old pale blue amplifier.

"I said, 'Well, these are my hand tools. It's all going to build up from this,"' says White.

The resulting 13 tracks may be the best compendium yet of his particular blend of American music. There's electric rages (Sixteen Saltines), country blues (Trash Tongue Talker), rockabilly (Rudolph Toombs' I'm Shakin,' the lone cover) and folk ballads like the lilting Hip (Eponymous) Poor Boy.

After funneling his songwriting through various band conceptions — the White Stripes, the Raconteurs, the Dead Weather — White is directing his latest production without artifice. Or at least, less artifice.

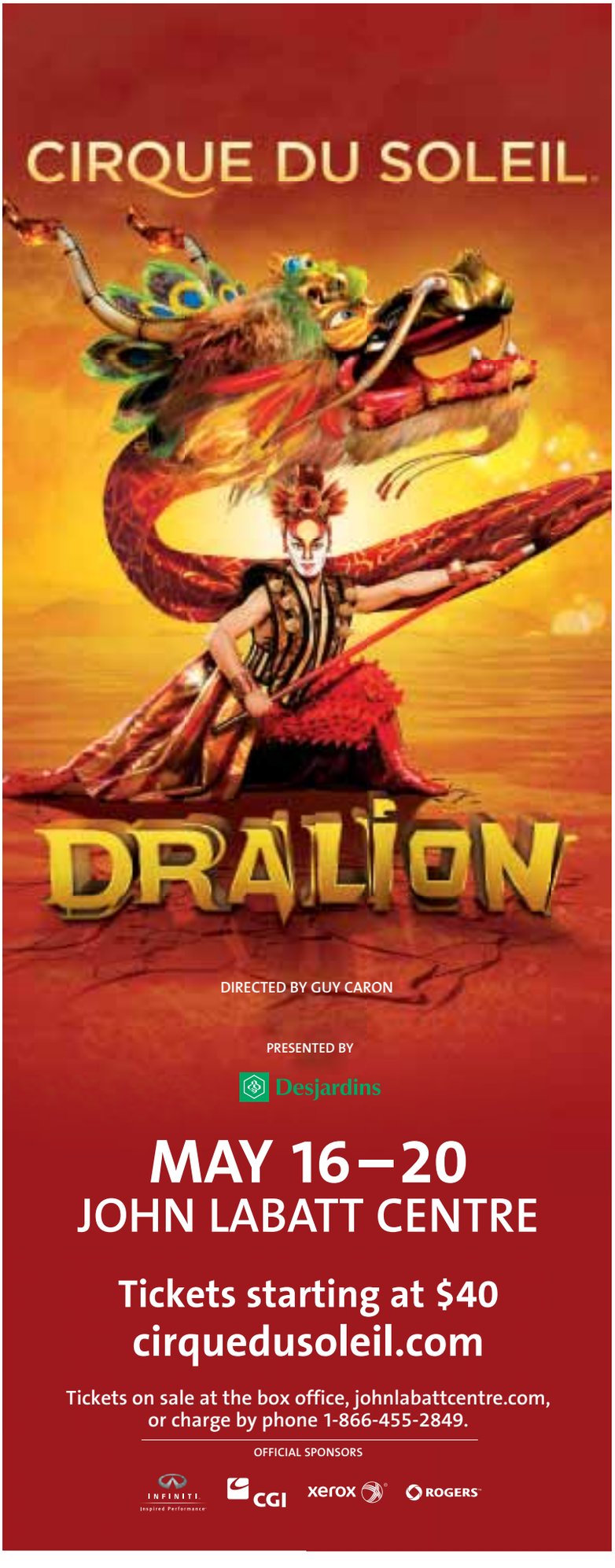
"The funniest thing is that every album I've done and every band I've been in have been happy accidents, including this one," says White, speaking from his home in Nashville.

"If you just write songs and don't tell them what to be — don't tell the song to be a country song or a rock 'n' roll song — then it becomes what it needs to be in the end." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Blunderbuss

Blunderbuss, which debuted on the Billboard album charts this week at No. 1 with about 138,000 copies sold, according to Nielsen SoundScan, was a particularly unplanned process.

- **In studio.** When the rapper RZA didn't make it to a scheduled session at White's studio, White decided to start working up some songs of his own. It wasn't until well into the process that those in the room — a collection of session musicians and others — understood the project taking shape.



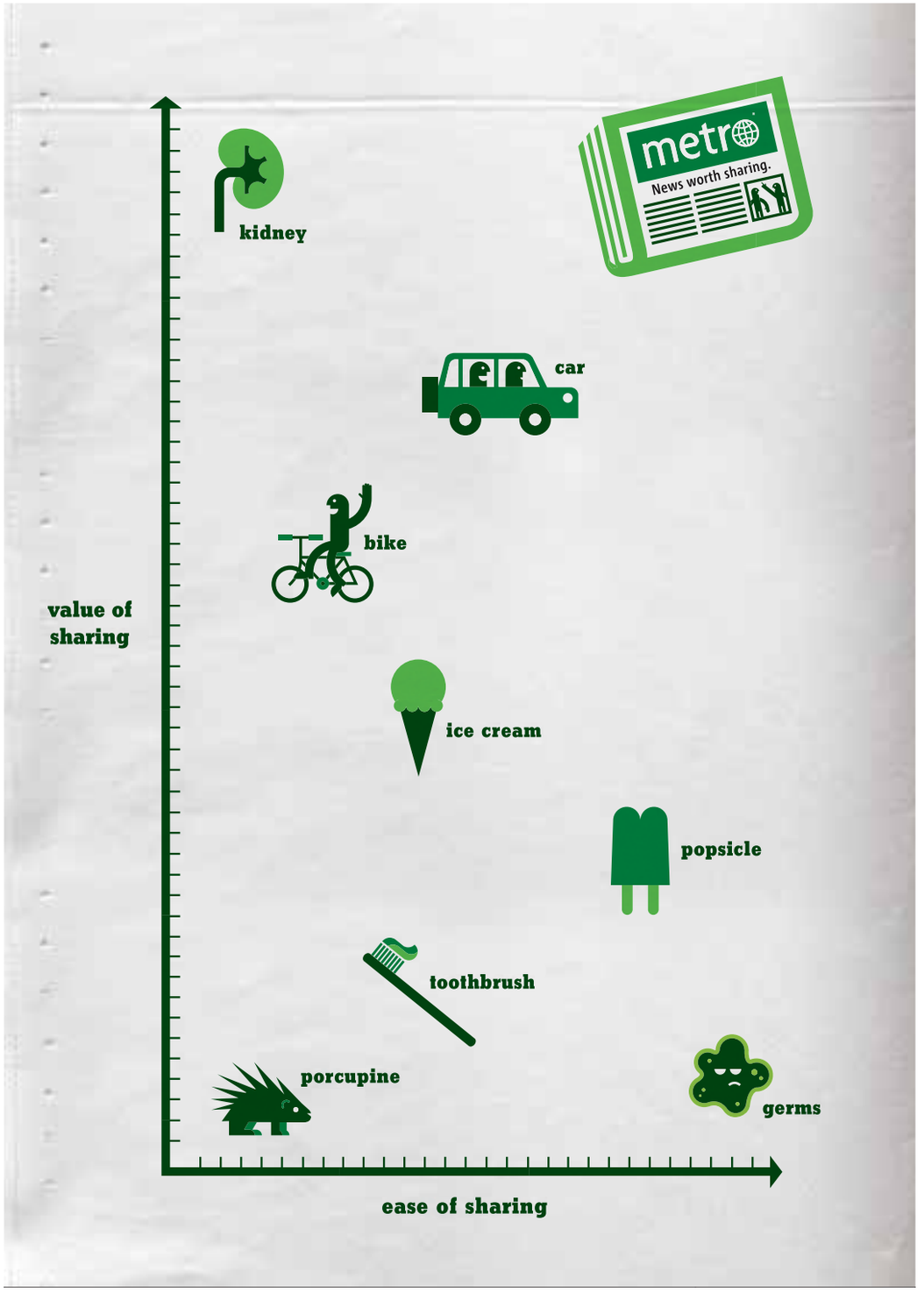
Lady Gaga. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Lady Gaga single again

Lady Gaga and boyfriend Taylor Kinney have reportedly called it quits, with the culprit being the singer's hectic schedule, according to Us Weekly.

"She will be touring nonstop until next year and has found she can't have a relationship at the same time," a source says of Gaga, who is about to embark on a 110-stop tour.

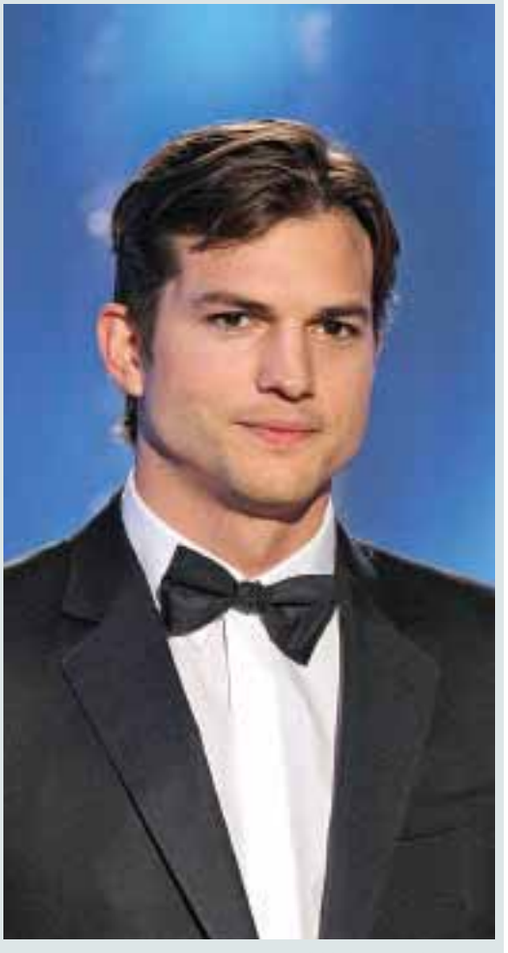
"There's just no room for anything else. Her work is all-consuming." Of course, to hear the source tell it, the relationship might not have lasted much longer on its own, anyway. "Taylor was all about himself, a typical actor, and didn't completely get Gaga," the source says.



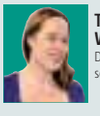
METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word



Seriously Ashton, that's just plain racist



THE WORD
Dorothy Robinson
scene@metronews.ca

Poor Popchips. They just wanted to get people to eat their unique snack food (a.k.a. communion wafers with salt) but their recent online ad campaign is backfiring spectacularly.

The face of the campaign, Ashton Kutcher, is currently facing criticism for his roles in the commercials that many feel are racist, according to E! News. In the online video, Kutcher appears as numerous ridiculous characters, including Raj, a brown-faced Bollywood producer with a thick Indian accent. (Kutcher also appears as a character sending up Karl Lagerfeld that could be construed as homophobic.)

Overwhelmingly negative responses to the advertisement prompted Popchips to remove it from YouTube and Facebook a day after it was released.

"The new Popchips worldwide dating video and ad campaign featuring four characters was created to provoke a few laughs and was never intended to stereotype or offend anyone," a company rep said in a statement to the Hollywood Reporter.

Here's the thing someone should have told Popchips: Kutcher can't act. At all. His version of "acting" is basically over the top parody — all the time. So when he gets tapped to portray someone of a different race, even in a comedic role, of course it will be seen as mockery/racism. The only actor who could tackle this without getting in trouble? Sir Ben Kingsley. Popchips, get that guy on the phone ASAP.

Liquid Assets

Cool caliente bites with fresh Corona

LIQUID ASSETS
Peter Rockwell
@therealwineguy
peterrockwell@eastlink.ca

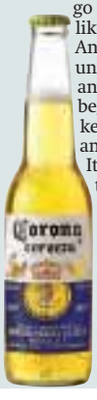
I've had a long standing respect for tequila, but the distilled output of agave plants is by no means the only booze stamped "Made in Mexico".

With Cinco de Mayo celebrations a day away and Salma Hayek shilling for Burger King, south of the border (the American one at least) things are heating up.

Sadly, the country's superstar brand — Corona Extra (6x330 ml, $12.95 - $14.09) — gets a bum rap from beer aficionados thanks to its lean-bodied flavour and clear glass bottle (which fanatics swear allows natural light to affect its flavour).

Whatever you believe, Corona is a great beer to have with any food that's eclectic — especially if it's spicy.

Of course, the last thing I would do is allow a bartender to jam a wedge of lime into any Corona bottle I've ordered. They may seem to go together like Brad and Angelina but the union of lime and liquid really began as a way to keep flies out of an opened bottle. It turns out that the acidity in the citrus makes them bug off.



PRICES REFLECT THE RANGE ACROSS THE COUNTRY. SOME PRODUCTS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE IN ALL PROVINCES.

Cinco de Mayo gets a splash of vibrant colour

This recipe serves six. MATTHEW MEAD/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Carne Asada with Confetti Salsa. The combination of fruity salsa & marinated meat makes this the perfect Mexican meal

The more time the sirloin tips bathe in this recipe's punchy marinade of lime juice, Worcestershire sauce and garlic, the better. So while it calls for marinating the meat for about two hours, don't hesitate to toss them in as you head out to work in the morning. You'll be rewarded when you get home and crank up the grill.

To save time, you could substitute a mango or other fruity jarred salsa for the one made as part of this recipe. If you have time, this salsa is a chunky hodge-podge of bell pepper, tomatillos, avocado, mango, tomato and red onion, with a bit of heat from a chipotle chili in adobo.

1. In a large zip-close bag, combine the sirloin tips, lime juice, salt, Worcestershire sauce, olive oil, black pepper and garlic cloves. Shake to coat the meat. Refrigerate for two hours.

2. Meanwhile, in a large bowl combine the bell pepper, tomatillos, avocado, mango, tomato, red onion, chipotle, adobo sauce, garlic, lime juice and cilantro. Stir well, then season with salt and black pepper. Refrigerate for 30 minutes before serving.

3. When ready to cook the steak, heat a grill to high.

4. Drain the meat, discarding the marinade. Use paper towels to pat the meat dry. Sear on the grill, about four minutes per side for medium-rare. Serve with the confetti salsa.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ingredients

For the meat:
- 2 pounds sirloin tips
- 2 tbsp lime juice
- 1 tsp salt
- 2 tbsp Worcestershire sauce
- 2 tbsp olive oil
- 1 tsp black pepper
- 2 cloves garlic, smashed

For the salsa:
- 1 yellow pepper, cored, diced
- 3 tomatillos, diced
- 1 avocado, pitted and diced
- 1 mango, pitted and diced
- 1 large tomato, diced
- 1/2 small red onion, diced
- 1 chipotle in adobo sauce, minced
- 1 tbsp adobo sauce
- 1 garlic clove, minced
- 3 tablespoons lime juice
- 1/4 cup chopped cilantro
- Salt and ground black pepper

3 LIFE

History

Celebration

Cinco de Mayo celebrates the victory of the Mexican Army over the French at the Battle of Puebla in 1862. Celebrations include not only wonderful Mexican foods, but also parades, mariachi music and folk dancing.

Traditional Mexican cuisine varies vastly from region to region in Mexico.

The earliest Mexican agricultural staples were beans, squash and chili peppers, with corn arriving some 2,000 years later. Staples expanded to include avocados, coconuts, tomatoes, sweet potatoes, peanuts, chia seeds, and more varieties of beans.

Early traditional dishes included atole (porridge), tortilla, tamales (filled pastries, both savory and sweet) and soups. The cuisine has expanded to include a wide variety of dishes way beyond burritos, tacos and salsa.

METRO

On the web

Cinco de Mayo goes sweet with recipe for Mexican chocolate honey cake

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Complement haddock with an odd little fruit

This recipe serves four. MATTHEW MEAD/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Visually, kumquats resemble diminutive oranges. But they technically aren't citrus. And unlike oranges, it is the thin skin that is sweet, while the flesh is sour.

You probably won't find bushels of them at the grocer, but most stores will have a few pints tucked away among the "strange" produce offerings.

And they are worth looking for. Here's why: in a tiny, bright orange package, kumquats pack an intense sweet-tart flavour that complements sweet and savoury dishes.

Kumquats, which originated in China, are eaten whole — as in, skin and all. The seeds can be chomped, too. But that's a matter of taste.

Kumquats should be firm, but tender. They can be stored at room temperature for several days or refrigerated for two to three weeks.

Oh, and the funny name? It comes from the Cantonese kin ku, which means "golden orange."

Here they're used to make Kumquat and Red Onion Salsa on Baked Haddock.

1. Heat oven to 200 C (400 F). Coat a rimmed baking sheet with cooking spray.

2. In a wide, shallow bowl or pie pan, whisk together eggs and flour. In a second similar bowl or pan, mix bread crumbs and salt.

3. One piece at a time, dip haddock in egg blend, turning to coat all sides, then dredge through bread crumbs, patting them to cover evenly.

4. Arrange haddock on prepared baking sheet. Spritz tops of fish with cooking spray. Bake 14 minutes or until the fish flakes easily.

5. Meanwhile, in a food processor, combine onion, jalapeno and garlic. Process until chopped. Add cilantro and kumquats, then pulse to chop.

6. Transfer kumquat mixture to a medium bowl. Stir in olive oil, honey and lemon juice, then season with salt and pepper. Serve haddock topped with salsa. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ingredients

- 2 eggs
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) all-purpose flour
- 250 ml (1 cup) panko breadcrumbs
- 5 ml (1 tsp) salt
- 625 g (1 1/4 lb) haddock fillets, divided into 4 pieces
- 1 medium red onion, quartered
- 1/2 jalapeno pepper
- 2 cloves garlic
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) loosely packed fresh cilantro
- 500 ml (2 cups) kumquats, halved and seeded
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) olive oil
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) honey
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) lemon juice
- Salt and ground black pepper

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CFL draft

Riders take local player Heenan with No. 1 pick

The Saskatchewan Roughriders held true to their word, taking offensive lineman Ben Heenan with the first overall pick of the 2012 CFL Canadian college draft on Thursday.

There was no intrigue or mystery to the pick as Riders president Jim Hopson announced earlier in the day that the six-foot-four, 310-pound Heenan would be selected. Heenan spent the last four years at the University of Saskatchewan and was the top-ranked prospect for the draft before finishing No. 2 in the final listing. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Jim Hopson, Riders president and CEO, and Ben Heenan. MORGAN MODJESKI/METRO

NHL

Torres to appeal 25-game ban

Phoenix Coyotes forward Raffi Torres is appealing the length of his 25-game suspension.

Torres was penalized last month after landing a late hit on Chicago forward Marian Hossa. Torres and the NHLPA will meet with commissioner Gary Bettman about the length of the suspension, but not the ban itself. The NHLPA said there's no date for the meeting, but the collective bargaining agreement stipulates the commissioner "will endeavour to rule promptly on any such appeal." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Rangers celebrate Marian Gaborik's goal in triple overtime on Wednesday night in Washington. PATRICK MCDERMOTT/GETTY IMAGES FILE

'It felt like it was never going to end'

NHL. New York and Washington rest up after gruelling triple overtime Game 3

The New York Rangers played what amounted to two games over two days just to get one win against the Washington Capitals.

Each team scored a goal in the second period, then skated the ice for the next 83 minutes before Marian Gaborik gave the Rangers a 2-1 victory at 14:41 of the third overtime to end the 20th longest game in the history of the Stanley Cup playoffs, a matchup that began Wednesday night and spilled into Thursday.

If it was the decisive game of the series, Rangers coach John Tortorella might have been more enthusiastic. Instead, he looked at the win for what it was: A gritty performance that gave New York a 2-1 lead in a best-of-seven that doesn't seem likely to end anytime soon.

"It's one game," Tortorella said in a conference call Thursday. "You take the good things out of it and try to keep momentum on your side."

It's impossible to say whether the good vibes the Rangers gained with the win will carry into Saturday, when the teams meet in Washington for Game 4.

"We have confidence in our team," Washington's Troy Brouwer said. "I mean, if we continue playing like we did, creating offence, blocking shots, you know, playing good, patient hockey, we'll be successful."

Capitals coach Dale Hunter played in a four-overtime game and now has stood behind the bench in a three-overtime thriller. He lost both games, but neither of them ended a series.

"Well, you go into triple overtime it's a special game," Hunter said in the wee hours Thursday. "But it's just one game and you got to bounce back."

Gaborik won it in the 115th minute. The game started at 7:40 p.m. on Wednesday and ended at 12:14 a.m. Thursday.

Rangers goaltender Henrik Lundqvist was too exhausted to let out a yell afterward. More than excitement, he experienced relief.

"It's a feeling where, usually, I scream because I'm so excited. I was just too tired," Lundqvist said after his 45-save performance. "I kept saying 'Oh my God, it's over.' I mean, oh my God. It felt like it was never going to end." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

"It's nice that both teams get two days to recoup. This way, they both get to come back and get two days' rest and you see a better hockey game."
Capitals coach Dale Hunter, on recovering for Saturday's Game 4.

4 SPORTS

Quoted

"I'm sorry to say, Superman is dead. All of us can appear to be super, but all of us need to reach out and find support when we're hurting."

Shawn Mitchell, a chaplain for the San Diego Chargers, Junior Seau's former team. The San Diego County medical examiner's office ruled Seau's death a suicide on Thursday. The autopsy said Seau died of a gunshot wound to the chest. The medical examiner's office was awaiting a decision by the family Thursday on whether to turn over Seau's brain to unidentified outside researchers for study. Seau died Wednesday in his home in suburban Oceanside.

On the web

Victoria's Ryder Hesjedal is set to start the storied Giro Italia this weekend as the team leader for Garmin-Barracuda. Hesjedal says the three-week long 3,503.9-kilometre race "can be harder" than the Tour de France. Scan the code for the story.

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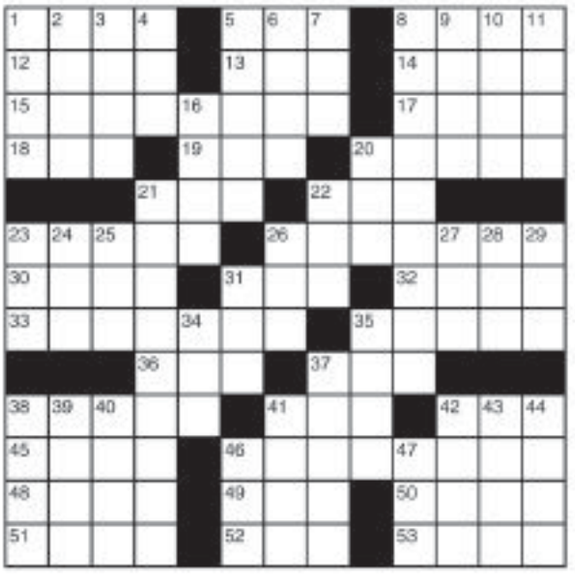
Crossword

Across

1 Pay attention
5 Actor McBride
8 Faux pas
12 Gymnast Korbut
13 "2001" computer
14 — list (agenda)
15 Words from 26-Down
17 Rock partner
18 Blue
19 Before
20 Photocopier's ancestor
21 Malicious
22 Diving bird
23 Godzilla's bailiwick
26 Experience
30 October birthstone
31 London hrs.
32 "The Cosby Show" son
33 Bankrupt
35 Pounce down
36 Years in a decade
37 Halloween shout
38 Scuffle
41 Winter ailment
42 Hawaiian garland
45 Smell
46 Words from 26-Down
48 Judicial garb
49 Corn spike
50 Hurried
51 Differently
52 Elev.
53 Fermi's bit

Down

1 Beer ingredient
2 Singer Fitzgerald
3 "Holy cow!"
4 Rotation duration
5 Variety of beet
6 Patriot Nathan
7 Under the weather
8 Words from 26-Down
9 Weaving apparatus
10 Between assignments
11 Horseback game
16 Legume
20 Pie filling?
21 Words from 26-Down
22 Pismire
23 Profession
24 Gorilla
25 Crony
26 Diamond boss
27 Greek P
28 Earth (Prefix)
29 "Alley —"
31 Pistol
34 Nevertheless
35 Tart-tasting
37 Utter impulsively
38 Golfer's warning
39 Pedestal occupant
40 Sailors
41 Colt or filly
42 Stolen goods
43 Modern money
44 Particular
46 Verily
47 Schedule abbr.



Sudoku

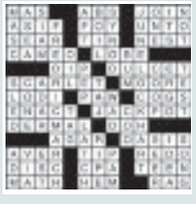
	1			6	3		9	
4								
				2	8		5	4
9		8		3		5		
			2		1			
		6		7		4		3
6	9		7	4				
								9
	5		8	9			2	

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's Sudoku

1	8	4	3	2	5	7	6	9
3	6	5	4	9	7	1	8	2
9	2	7	6	1	8	5	4	3
2	5	6	1	4	3	8	9	7
7	1	9	5	8	2	4	3	6
4	3	8	9	7	6	2	5	1
6	7	1	8	5	9	3	2	4
5	4	3	2	6	1	9	7	8
8	9	2	7	3	4	6	1	5

Yesterday's Crossword



Cryptoquip

How to play
This is a substitution cipher where one letter stands for another. Eg: If X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle.

VYSR UVQ ELB EQILRSD KNU QR BPQISD WRA DUWCU DKWCCLRB. VQNPA KSQKPS DWX UYSX'CS EQMLR' QMSR?

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF SOMEBODY DETONATED EXPLOSIVES BY YOU, I EXPECT THAT MIGHT HAVE A BLASTING EFFECT ON YOU.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: K equals P

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

Horoscope

Aries | March 21 - April 20. It may seem as if someone you live or work with is keeping things from you but according to the planets that isn't the case at all.

Taurus | April 21 - May 21. Put your own needs on hold and help someone with an emotional problem that they are finding difficult.

Gemini | May 22 - June 20. With Venus in your sign linked to your ruling planet Mercury, your powers of persuasion are awesome.

Cancer | June 21 - July 22. Don't let anyone tell you that you are aiming too high or expecting too much of yourself. If anything, you should be expecting a lot more.

Leo | July 23 - Aug. 22. Be who you are, not who other people say you should be. You are under no obligation to change your ways to suit family and friends.

Virgo | Aug. 23 - Sept. 22. Something you say today may not go down well with friends. That's OK because the truth needs to be told.

Libra | Sept. 23 - Oct. 22. The approaching full moon will compel you to make changes. They may be painful but they are necessary too.

Scorpio | Oct. 23 - Nov. 21. The planets indicate that a time of new beginnings is here at last but to make the most of it you need to sweep away all traces of the past.

Sagittarius | Nov. 22 - Dec. 21. You need to face up to your problems. Most likely they are not real problems at all, just doubts.

Capricorn | Dec. 22 - Jan 20. You may be the most practical member of the zodiac but you have your dreams like everyone else and one dream is now within reach.

Aquarius | Jan. 21 - Feb 18. People in positions of power are watching you closely, so put on a show over the next couple of days.

Pisces | Feb. 19 - March 20. Get creative and think of ways you might be able to make your life more exciting — and more profitable too.

SALLY BROMPTON

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David

BELA SZANDELSZKY/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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